

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 3-7 are presently pending in the application. Claim 3 is the sole independent claim.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in light of the present amendments and remarks.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

The Office has rejected previously presented claims 1-2 and 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Marks (WO 00/41112) and Dorfman (WO 01/11504), and under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gardner (U.S. Pat. No. 7,003,734) and Anderson (U.S. 2004/0093327).

While Applicant may respectfully disagree with the Office's rejections, in order to expedite issuance of a patent Applicant has canceled claims 1-2 and 8-9 without prejudice in light of the Office's indication of allowable subject matter in connection with claims 3-7.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the § 102 rejections have been overcome, and reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant is grateful to the Office for the indication that claims 3-7 are allowed, and has overcome all pending rejections to order to expedite issuance of a patent.

IV. Conclusion


It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is in clear condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Although not believed necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayments to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP's Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Office is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-220-4200 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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